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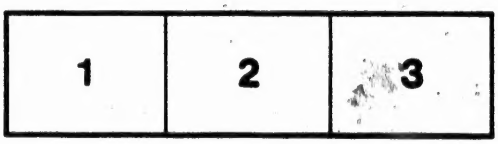
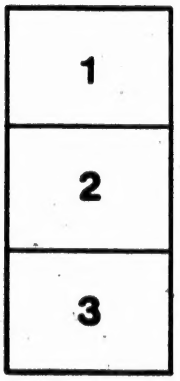
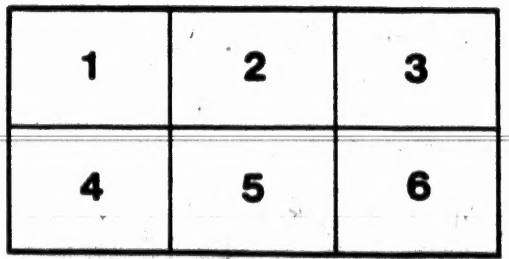






PROSPECTUS

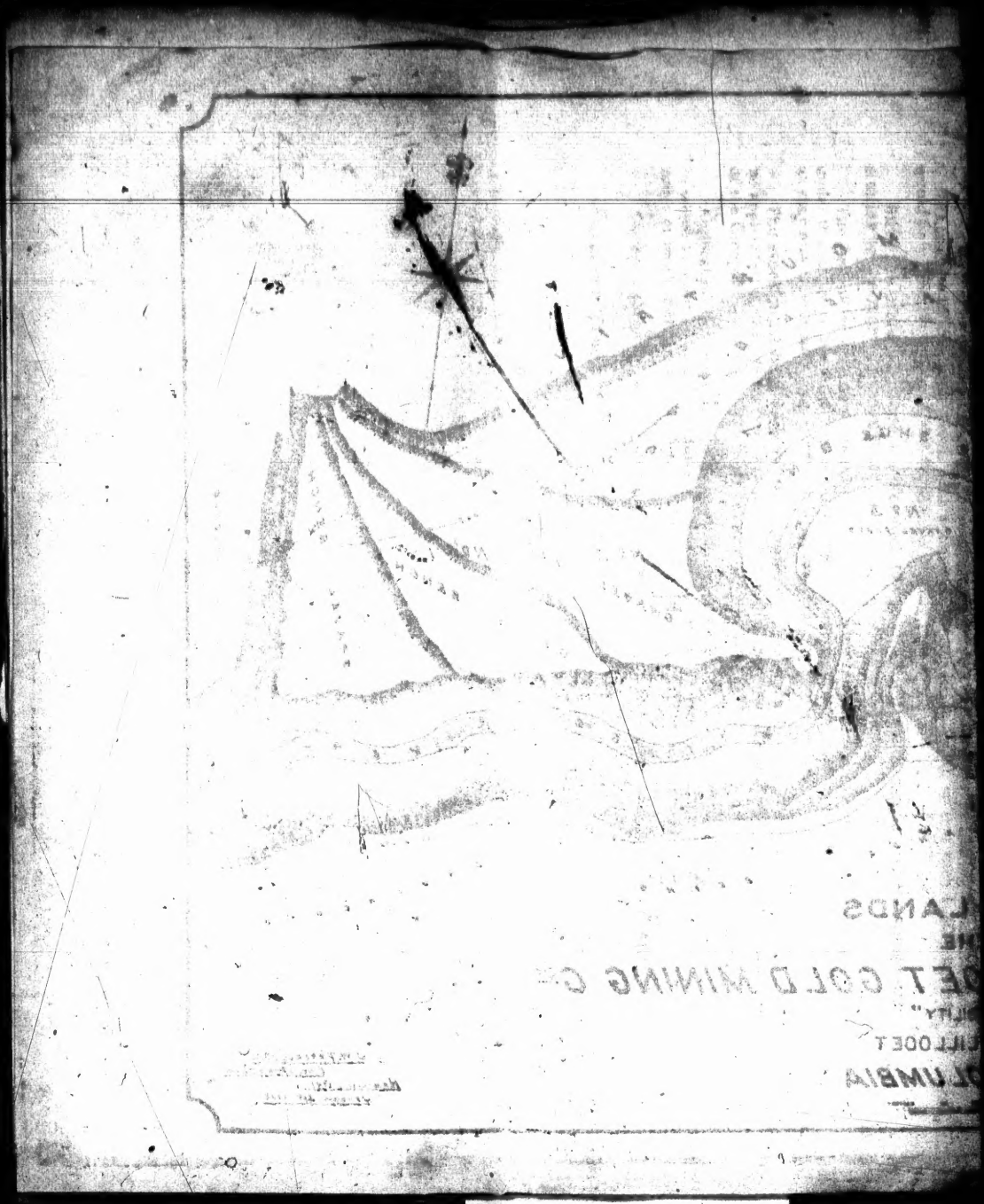
The Bridge River and Lillooet Gold Mining Company

(LIMITED LIABILITY)

Capital Stock, $750,000

IN $1.00 SHARES,

FULLY PAID AND NON-ASSESSABLE.



PROSPECTUS

The Bridge River and Lillooet Gold Mining Company

(LIMITED LIABILITY)

CAPITAL STOCK, $750,000

IN $1.00 SHARES,

FULLY PAID AND NON-ASSESSABLE.

Provisional Directorate and Officers.

E. A. COLQUHOUN, ESQ. (Mayor of the City of Hamilton), PRESIDENT.
R. A. LUCAS, ESQ. (of Messrs. Lucas, Steele & Bristol, Hamilton), VICE-PRESIDENT
GEO. ALLAN, ESQ., Vancouver.
GEORGE E. BOWER, ESQ., Vancouver.
W. J. McMILLAN, ESQ., Vancouver.

Secretary-Treasurer, JOHN G. Y. BURKHOLDER, ESQ., Hamilton.
Auditor, C. S. SCOTT, ESQ., Accountant, Hamilton.

ADVISORY BOARD.

J. M. YOUNG, Esq., Proprietor Hamilton Cotton Co., Hamilton.
JOHN H. LAND, Esq., Dominion Secretary Royal Templars of Temperance.
JOS. GREENE, Esq., Secretary-Treasurer W. E. Sanford Manuf'g Co., Hamilton.
CHAS. W. TINLING, ESQ. (of Messrs. Archdale Wilson & Co.), Hamilton.
The President, Vice-President, and Auditor.

BANKERS: The Bank of Hamilton, Hamilton, Canada.
SOLICITORS: Messrs. Scott, Lees & Hobson, Hamilton.
ENGINEER: J. W. Tyrrell, C. E., M. C. S. C. E., Hamilton.
CONSULTING MINING ENGINEER: Wm. Hamilton Merritt, Associate Royal School of Mines.

HEAD OFFICE OF THE COMPANY: VANCOUVER, CANADA.

BUSINESS OFFICE OF THE COMPANY: HAMILTON, CANADA.

The Bridge River and Lillooet Gold Mining Co.

LIMITED LIABILITY.

PROSPECTUS.

This Company is incorporated as a Joint Stock Company under the Companies Act, 1890, and amending acts, of the Province of British Columbia, for the purpose among other things of acquiring the rights of the Bridge River Gold Mining Co., Ltd., in their claims situate on and adjoining The Horse Shoe Bend of the Bridge River in the Lillooet District, British Columbia, and for the further purpose of diverting the river from its present course by means of a tunnel through what is known as the Hog's Back; for bringing in an abundant supply of water (5,000 miner's inches) by means of a ditch and flume; for a thorough testing of the whole property to ascertain the relative richness of the various portions thereof, in order to work the same to the best advantage; and for the further purpose of fully equipping the property with mining machinery and developing the same; the directorate to determine what portion or portions of such works shall be proceeded with immediately, with a view to the best financial results.

The **capital stock** of the Company is to be $250,000, in shares of the par value of one ($1) dollar each **fully paid and non-assessable.**

A **limited** number of these shares are offered to the public in the shape of **preferred** stock. The remaining shares will be **common** stock, and **available for sale only after the preferred stock is redeemed.** (See particulars at end of prospectus.)

In November, 1896, it was deemed advisable to send a qualified civil and mining engineer, who could be depended upon to make careful and reliable investigations and surveys of the property referred to; accordingly Mr. J. W. Tyrrell, of Hamilton, was retained for the purpose, and the following is his condensed report:—

HAMILTON, Canada, January 21st, 1897.

To the Shareholders of the Bridge River Gold Mining Co., Ltd.,
Hamilton, Ontario.

GENTLEMEN:

In accordance with your instructions of the 9th November, 1896, I have made a careful examination of your Placer Mine on the Bridge River, B. C., and have to report to you as follows:—

Your property, at present consisting of seven consolidated claims, is mainly situated on the north side of the Bridge River, in the District of Lillooet, B. C., and extends from a post at or near the western boundary of the Indian Reserve, which is 17 miles above the junction with the Fraser, for a distance of **two miles** up stream to the confluence of the North Fork.

The extent of your claims in all amounts to about **347** acres, which may be classified under three headings, viz., high bench land, low bench land and river bed.

The elevation of the high benches range from 250 to 500 feet above river bed at lower end of claim, and the height of the low benches range from 20 to 60 feet above river bed.

The cubical contents of the **high** benches above stream bed amount to **139,300,900 yards,** those of the **lower** benches to **1,600,000** cubic yards, and those of the **stream bed** to 70,000 cubic yards per foot of depth, which, with a depth of 40 feet to bed rock, as is reported to exist, would make a total for stream bed of **2,800,000** cubic yards.

With the addition of the property upon the south side of the river, which you are about to **acquire,** the acreage of your claims will be swelled to the amount of **719 acres,** and the cubical contents of the **high** benches to about **365,900,900** cubic yards.

The formation of your claims is chiefly that of a **loose** gravel, apparently of **ancient river deposit,** with some thin firmer beds or pay streaks appearing at various elevations, upon the exposed sections of banks. **Nothing** of the character of **cemented gravel** was found, but on the contrary the nature of the material appears to be most **admirably suited for hydraulic mining.**

Rock occurs at several points in a direct line across the south side of the Horse Shoe Bend and along the river bank. Between the rocky bluffs the whole river now winds its way, but to all appearances the ancient channel of the North Fork lay along the **base** of the mountain range, where now exists a **great bed of auriferous gravel 450 feet** in depth.

A further evidence of the gravel bed having once been the course of this branch of the river appears from the fact that just above your claims there has been at some time a great slide of rock from the side of the high mountain, which would account for the stream being deviated from the ancient to the present channel.

This great gravel formation, having been the bed of the ancient river, might well be expected to be **highly gold bearing,** as you have found it to be.

Your property is **exceptionally favored** in its location and natural facilities for **economical operation.** The climate of Lillooet is well known to be about the best to be found in British Columbia, so that you may expect to be able to operate your mine some seasons **without interruption,** or at least for nine months of the year, which is about two months longer than work can be carried on in the famous Cariboo district to the north.

It is comparatively easy of access, being only about 80 miles from the main line of the C. P. R., and of this distance 60 miles consists of a good stage road, the remaining 20 being "pack trail."

With regard to the very important question of **water supply,** your mine is most fortunately situated. Within **three miles** of your claims there is a constant available supply of **10,000** miner's inches at an elevation of **550 feet** above river bed at lower end of mine.

This will place the maximum length of ditch required to operate your whole property at less than **five miles,** which, considering the ample and constant supply, is a **natural advantage** probably **unequalled** in the Province. Other mines in the Cariboo district have been obliged to conduct their water supply, of far inferior extent and constancy, for **four** times the above distance at enormous expense.

At the Horse Shoe Bend a peculiar natural feature exists of **great value.** It will be possible and advisable to divert the river from the present broad channel around the Bend by means of a short tunnel through the point of rock at the "corks" of the shoe, and thus **dry the rich river bed and low gravel benches** in the Bend so as to render them readily accessible for sluicing purposes. The cost of this tunnel will be **small** as compared with the **great benefits** which will be derived from its construction, one of which will be additional water power that can be advantageously made use of for washing the lower diggings, and operating an electric light plant.

Regarding the river bed and gravel flats of the Horse-shoe Bend, they should from their **natural position** be found to be **exceptionally rich.** Above the Horse-shoe the river flows very swiftly through a deep canyon, but when it strikes the "frog" of the horse-shoe or protruding tongue of rock, its velocity is suddenly checked, and around the bend it varies from only three to four miles an hour. Thus the channel here **forms a natural sluice box,** which must catch **all the gold** brought down the canyon.

One of the most necessary requisites for the economical operation of a placer mine is well known to be an ample and convenient **dumping ground** for the washed material. In this respect your mine is also most favorably situated. It not only possesses the deep channel of the Bridge River for the entire length of your claims, but at the Bend there is in addition the great circular pit of fully **50,000,000** cubic yards capacity. This after washing of the River Bed and lower benches in it will form a most admirable dumping ground.

For the purpose of constructing flumes, sluices, dams or other structures an **abundance of timber is available on all parts of your property.**

My estimate of the cost of the various works necessary in order to equip your mine, including tunnel excavation, tunnel lining, tunnel approaches, ditch, dams, saw mill, pipes and giants, freightage, buildings, derricks, &c., &c., is the sum of $78,690, as per my detailed report furnished you.

As soon as the ditch can be constructed to bring water from the North Fork, and pipes placed, work can be begun at the lower end of your mine, adjoining Antoine Creek.

It has been ascertained in practice that one miner's inch of water will wash as much as ten cubic yards of gravel per day, so that with 5,000 inches of water, **the right to which you have secured,** you should be able to handle 50,000 cubic yards per day. This in a season of 225 days, which you should at least be able to count upon, would amount to the enormous quantity of 11,250,000 cubic yards, which at the very low average of 10 cents per cubic yard would yield the handsome sum of **$1,125,000** in gold per annum.

In conclusion I am pleased to be able to state that, after careful examination, it is my opinion that in many respects your property is unequalled as a placer mine in the Province of British Columbia.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. W. TYRRELL,
Civil and Mining Engineer.

TESTIMONY FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Bridge River is thus described by Dr. Dawson, chief of the Government survey, in the Geological report for 1894, page 119 R:

"BRIDGE RIVER.—Discovered in 1858, and soon prospected nearly to its sources, some mining being done throughout. The coarsest gold is reported to be found along the first ten miles from the mouth; further on, for about fifteen miles, more or less scale gold was obtained. A good deal of mining has been done of late years in the vicinity of the South Fork, which is reached by a journey of three or four days from Lillooet, via Seton Lake and across the mountains. It is reported that one nugget weighing 32 ounces [worth $528] was found five miles up Bridge River, and that in 1866 twelve Chinese miners obtained gold to the value of $66,000 by wing-damming."

The Company have a letter from Mr. A. W. Smith, M. P. P., who has resided continuously at Lillooet since 1858, and whose business has been chiefly the purchase of gold from Placer mines, in which he says: "**Bridge River has yielded a vast amount of gold.** It has been mined continuously from 1859 to the present time, and the **vicinity of Horse Shoe Bend has been the best part of the river.** I have not been at Horse Shoe Bend, but all the miners speak of it as a good location, and it would have been worked long ago had it not been for the expense to be incurred."

Mr. Soues, Government Gold Commissioner, Clinton, B. C., writes: "I am not in position to say how much gold has been taken out of Bridge River. In fact no one can answer that question of my own knowledge, I know that it has been worked for thirty years, and in that period a **great amount of gold** has been taken from it, and I think I am safe in saying that up to the present time **the banks of the river have been merely scratched.**"

Mr. Marcus Baldee, of Vancouver, in a letter, thus speaks of this property: "In 1890 I went up the river for about eighteen miles to look at some bench lands for placer mining. The bench lands were mostly on the North or North-east of the river, but up high and dry from the river. I was there about one week with a friend. We packed down to the river, ground in sacks from different spots, and we always in panning out the ground and gravel would get gold frequently as high as fifteen and twenty colors to the pan. The gold in the river bed has never been reached. The mining done there has been mostly along the river banks and on bars."

The following extracts are taken from the B. C. Mining Journal:

"Ashcroft, B. C., Oct. 10th, 1896.

"BRIDGE RIVER.—Bridge River is attracting a good deal of attention this season. A nugget worth $128 is reported found about forty miles up the river, by an Indian called Hunter Jack. Several hundred dollars were taken out in close proximity by the same party."

"Ashcroft, B. C., Oct. 17th, 1896.

"BRIDGE RIVER.—It is a perfectly well-known fact that Bridge River has always been noted for its great richness in placer mining, and not only fine gold but nuggets have been found of great value. Several miners, visiting Lillooet for supplies, from that quarter, a few weeks ago, speak very favorably of the mines there, and vindicate with great satisfaction the reports that have been afloat for years as to the extensive mining fields of that river. As high as from $5 to $13 per day have been made there, not only by whites, but also by Indians and Chinese, sometimes by means of sluice boxes and sometimes by the rocker. We have reason to believe that Bridge River will be the mining section of the future in this part of the country, both in placer and quartz mining, as it is only reasonable to believe that, where so much gold has been found in the benches and banks of a river, there must be some very rich ledges of quartz in that vicinity."

Mr. Tyrrell reports the approximate contents of the benches as **140,900,000** cubic yards (not including the river bed), and, when the additional lands are acquired, **365,900,900** cubic yards. Therefore the following quotation is given, as well as the testimony from one of the employees of The Bridge River Gold Mining Co., Ltd., as to the richness of some of the benches:

From the work on Gold Mining, by Dr. Egleston, of the Columbia School of Mines, page 287, edition of 1890, in which he says, concerning Hydraulic Mines: "When a mine is fully developed, the returns are very regular and uniform, and can be counted on with quite as much certainty as, for instance, in manufacturing pursuits. Indeed, it is usually possible to estimate beforehand with considerable precision whether the returns from a given undertaking are likely to pay for the expense of opening the mine."

In August, 1896, J. C. Scott, Superintendent of The Bridge River Gold Mining Co., Ltd., did certain testing by sinking shafts in the benches around the Horse Shoe Bend, as shown on the map. The following is taken from his report: "We put down three holes back some distance from edge of bank, and two in face of bank. These holes are from 10 feet to 18 feet in depth. We found colors in almost every pan washed from upper part of bench, but they were fine gold. Now I do not consider this a fair prospect, as we only got to where we might expect to find gold, as what we did go through was very loose earth, and we could not go deeper without cribbing. We also went down below on river edge or foot of bank, and got in different pans as high as 10 cents [or $10 per cubic yard], and in some instances 15 cents a pan [or $15 per cubic yard]."

The Company have a sample bottle of gold valued at over $35.00 taken from a pay streak on the gravel flats inside of the Horse Shoe Bend, which represents the result from the washing of two barrow loads of gravel (equivalent to about $140 per cubic yard). This is certified to by H. F. Hooper in a letter bearing date 20th August, 1893.

In August, 1896, Mr. John G. Y. Burkholder visited the property, and the following is taken from his report:—

"The Chinamen worked over the surface of a small portion of the lower bench in claim for a number of years prior to our securing it, and in that time have taken out large quantities of gold, estimated by reliable authorities to be over $1,000,000. I may say that in no case have I been able to find that they ever got down to a depth of more than six or eight feet from the surface, and in no known case did they ever get to bed rock, where naturally the gold would be found in the greatest quantity."

If such large returns as mentioned above have resulted from the working of the surfaces of the benches of the river by crude methods, it is but fair to assume that the results of deep and thorough working of the rich river bed and benches by modern hydraulic machinery will be most gratifying to the shareholders of this Company, particularly when it is remembered that the cost of hydraulic mining under favorable circumstances rarely exceeds five cents per cubic yard.

Up to the present the placer mines of British Columbia have turned out nearly **$60,000,000** in gold, and in a paper read before the General Mining Association of the Province of Quebec, by Mr. John B. Hobson, a Californian mining engineer of wide experience, who is the manager of the Cariboo Hydraulic Company and the Horsefly Hydraulic Mining Company, the following opinion of the value of the auriferous deposits of this Province was expressed:—

"The auriferous deposits of California remaining unworked are estimated at 2,108,875,000 cubic yards. The gold tenure of these gravels vary from one to thirty cents per cubic yard, and the total gold content estimated at about $500,000,000.

"I have seen in British Columbia, included in the Yale, Lillooet and Cariboo districts, three times the area of auriferous deposits that are known to exist in the whole of the State of California.

"The British Columbia gravels that I have examined, and that may be considered available for hydraulic working, yielded results varying from one cent to $1.50 per cubic yard, and as a whole average richer than any I have seen in California.

"In some properties examined, I sampled streaks, some of which were on bedrock and others 150 feet above the bedrock, that yielded prospects varying from $2 to $36 per cubic yard. We have no such rich deposits in California.

"I do not hesitate to predict that the day is not far distant when the gold output from the auriferous placers of British Columbia will not only surprise Canadians, but will astonish the civilized world."

PARTICULARS OF PURCHASE OF PROPERTY.

The purchase price of the said rights is to be the said 750,000 shares of stock in the new Company, such shares to be apportioned as follows: 400,000 ordinary shares to be set aside for the Shareholders in the old Company and **pooled** as hereinafter mentioned, and the remaining 350,000 shares to be deposited in the Treasury for the following purposes, viz: **100,000** shares, or such

smaller or larger number as may be deemed necessary by the Directors, to be sold for the purpose of developing and equipping the property, and 25,000 (and no more) of such shares to be transferred to the Shareholders of the old Company to recoup them for past development and preliminary expenses, and all of such 350,000 shares so disposed of, to be **preferential shares, limited or terminable,** in the manner hereinafter set forth, and all shares comprised in said 350,000 shares remaining undisposed of as aforesaid, to be issued as common shares upon the **termination** of such **preferential** shares in the said event and divided **pro rata amongst all the stockholders** in the new Company (including the purchasers of the preferential Stock).

TERMS OF SALE OF STOCK.

The Company have decided to offer a limited number of shares of the **preferred stock** to the public at one dollar per share, fully paid and non-assessable, for the purpose of providing for the construction of the several works, the necessary plant for the operating of the mine and the payment of the preliminary and incidental expenses.

The preferred stock will be sold on the following conditions: The $400,000 of common stock paid to the vendors is to be **pooled and cannot be offered for sale** until the **preferential** shares are **redeemed or recalled.**

The Company shall have the privilege, as soon as they have an amount in the Treasury derived from the mine, equal to the par value of the preferred stock disposed of as aforesaid, to call in the preferred stock by paying par for it **with interest at six per cent.** per annum **from the time of sale**; but should the holders prefer, they shall have the option of **exchanging their preferred stock** for common stock at the rate of **six shares of common stock for every five shares of preferred stock.** In order to secure this end, **no dividends** will be paid on any stock until the preferred stock is recalled or disposed of as aforesaid.

ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGES.

As soon as the Company shall have paid dividends equal to (50%) fifty per cent. of the capital stock, the Directors may then **divide** any Treasury stock remaining **amongst all the stock holders of the Company in proportion to their respective holdings.**

FOR EXAMPLE:

To make the foregoing conditions clear; Suppose **100,000 shares of the preferred stock are sold,** as soon as the Company has **cash derived from the mine to pay off the $100,000 and interest,** they shall have the privilege of recalling the preferred stock as aforesaid, but it is not likely any holder would be willing to accept cash when there is such **an amount in the Treasury,** and he has the option of **exchanging** every **1,000** shares he holds **for 1,200** shares of common stock. Should every holder of preferred stock exchange for common stock, then a dividend of about **20%** could be at once declared.

Thus, any one holding **1,000** shares of **preferred stock** would really be getting in **exchange 1,200 shares of common stock and a cheque for at least $240,** so that such **1,200** shares would only cost the holders about **80 cts.** on the $ of the par value.

Until the preferred stock is redeemed, the holders of it will occupy a position somewhat similar to the mortgagees of a property.

The various legal matters connected with the carrying out of this prospectus will be effectuated under the advice of the Solicitors of the Company, and will contain such conditions and provisions as they may advise to be in accordance with the said Company's Act of 1890, and amending Acts.

The stock must be paid for when subscribed. The stock books are now open and stock may be applied for on the application form to the Provisional Secretary-Treasurer, at the temporary office of the Company, 30 King Street East, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Applications for stock may be made by letter or telegram, and they will be filled in the order in which they are received. Remittances with applications may be made by bank draft, post office order or marked cheques payable to the provisional Secretary-Treasurer, Hamilton.

Any one calling at the Secretary's office can see nuggets and coarse gold taken from the mine.

DATED 8TH FEBRUARY, 1897.

FOOT OF MOUNTAINS
RESERVOIR
GRAVEL BENCH
ANCIENT RIVER CHANNEL
No 4
HORSE SHOE BEND
No 3
GRAVEL FLATS
No 2 GRAVEL BENCH
GRAVEL BENCH
GRAVEL BENCH
GRAVEL BENCH
GRAVEL BENCH
HIGH GRAVEL BENCH
TABLE OF QUANTITIES
PLAN of LANDS
OF THE
BRIDGE RIVER - LILLOOET GOLD MINING Co LTD
"LIMITED LIABILITY"
DISTRICT of LILLOOET
BRITISH COLUMBIA